



**Board of Governors Action Items
January 26 & 27, 2012**

Voted to recommend to the Supreme Court the reinstatement of an attorney from disability inactive status, with appropriate conditions.

Voted to approve a supplemental submission to the Supreme Court in a discipline matter in which the Board had recommended a stayed 90 day suspension and a public censure; the supplement explains why the Board proposed all the suspension time be stayed.

Heard a report on the MLK Day clinics in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau and Sitka.

Voted to recommend changes in the staff medical insurance plan to cut costs.

Discussed their Standing Policy for the Judicial Council advisory poll which provides for a run-off if no candidate gets more than 40% in the initial poll, and voted to keep that policy.

Voted to have a run-off advisory poll for the Judicial Council in the 2nd & 4th Judicial District between Aimee Oravec and Tom Temple; Jason Weiner withdrew from participating in the run-off poll.

Reviewed the advisory poll for the Commission on Judicial Conduct for the 1st Judicial District, and was informed that Robert Meachum had moved out of the district. The Board voted to send to the governor the next top three candidates: Margot Knuth, Amy Gurton Mead and Kirsten Swanson.

Voted to send the governor the top two candidates for the Commission on Judicial Conduct for the 2nd & 4th Judicial District: John Earthman and Robert Groseclose.

Heard staff reports: the 2012 CLE convention brochure has gone out; a rewritten MCLE rule has gone to the Supreme Court - it recommends that the requirements remain the same; 14 new Bar members requested and were assigned a mentor under the new Mentoring Program of the Alaska Bar in collaboration with local bar associations.

Reviewed the 2011 financial statements; approved the October board meeting minutes; reviewed the Law Related Education Committee's grants totaling \$4,990.

Reviewed a request to determine whether the Board had jurisdiction to consider an appeal of a Fee Arbitration Executive Committee (FAEC) decision that a case wasn't a proper matter for Fee Arbitration. The Board determined that it did not have jurisdiction, and that even if it did, it agreed with the FAEC's decision not to accept the case for fee arbitration.

Voted to approve the ethics opinion entitled: "May a Lawyer Record an Attorney's Lien (AS 34.35.430) Against a Client's Real Property?"

Voted to approve the Ethics Committee's request to repeal Ethics Opinion 69-5 regarding the responsibility of local counsel under Civil Rule 81.

Discussed the proposed amendment to allow graduates of non-accredited law schools to take the Alaska bar exam and voted to postpone consideration until the next meeting; asked Bar Counsel to draft an amendment which would allow graduates of non-ABA-accredited law schools, which are accredited by the State Bar of California Committee of Bar Examiners as eligible to take the CA bar exam, to take the Alaska bar exam.

Approved a request for special accommodations to take the February bar exam.

Approved nine reciprocity applicants for admission on reciprocity.

Approved three waivers for ALSC under Alaska Bar Rule 43.

Appointed Leslie Need to be the New Lawyer Liaison to the Board of Governors following the annual convention.

Heard a report from the Executive Director that the contract with Casemaker, the free online legal research service provided by the Bar to its members, is up at the end of October; agreed that the staff should survey Bar members about the value of this service to them.

Voted to adopt the guidelines for the Committee on Fair & Impartial Courts (FIC) as amended. Voted to publish an amendment to the Bylaws officially changing the name of the committee from "for" FIC to "on" FIC.

Heard from Bar Counsel on his meeting with the court Appellate Rules Committee and he will draft an amendment to Bar Rule 26 regarding a respondent attorney's response to a motion for interim suspension.

Voted to publish an amendment to Bar Rule 4, section 5, stating "absent a blanket prohibition by the NCBE..." regarding review of MBE/MPRE exam materials.

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